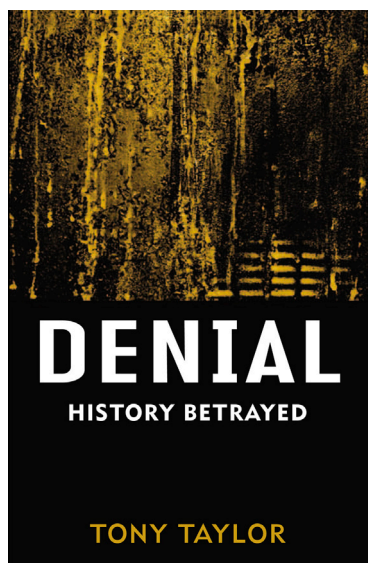


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DENIAL HISTORY BETRAYED

By Tony Taylor

Denial investigates the baffling spectacle known as historical denial – the obliteration of authentic accounts of the past to distract us from genuine historical understanding.

For the first time the ideological and psychological elements involved in historical denial have been drawn together and prove that while each denial-provoking case may vary in character, the nature of historical denial itself remains relatively consistent.

To illustrate this point, Tony Taylor analyses six fascinating case studies in twentieth and twenty-first century historical denial, starting with Turkey and the Armenian question and ending with an Australian version of denial.

Denial is now also a major online industry. Hate, denial and conspiracy sites have proliferated in the past ten years, a development complicated by technological developments such as blogging, the strategic diversion of readers from apparently legitimate sites to racist sites, and the jamming of mainstream sites with denial messages.

Many of those involved in debates about denial take the view that it is a legitimate alternative set of opinions about the past, rather than a politically and/or racially motivated distortion of events. Or, they believe the deniers have something valuable to say. *Denial* challenges that view.

Associate Professor **Tony Taylor** teaches and researches at Monash University. Between 1999 and 2000 he was Director of the Australian Government's National Inquiry into the Teaching and Learning of History and was author of the Inquiry's report *The Future of the Past*. His report led to the establishment of the Commonwealth History Project (2001 to 2006). Between 2001 and 2007 he was Director of the National Centre for History Education.